

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COPENH 02634 191324Z

50

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 DRC-01 H-03 OMB-01 MC-02 EB-11

COME-00 /136 W

----- 072710

R 190913Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9686

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

SECDEF WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COPENHAGEN 2634

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MASS, DA

SUBJ: DEFENSE MINISTER BRONDUM COMMENTS ON US VISIT

(F-104 REPLACEMENT)

1. I ASKED DEFMIN BRONDUM SEPT 18 FOR HIS IMPRESSIONS AS A RESULT OF HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE US. HE REPLIED THAT HE HAD BEEN VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE US PRESENTATION BUT THAT HE WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO COMMENT SUBSTANTIVELY AT THIS TIME. HE NOTED THAT THE CONSORTIUM STEERING COMMITTEE WOULD COMPLETE ITS FIRST REPORT IN EARLY OCT. THE CUT-OFF OF INFORMATION FOR THIS REPORT WAS MADE SOME WEEKS AGO, BEFORE THE FOUR MINISTERS VISITED THE US. THEIR REACTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS FROM THAT VISIT AND THE SCHEDULED OCTOBER TRIP TO SWEDEN WILL BE PASSED TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE WHICH WILL ISSUE A SECOND REPORT "BY THE END OF THE YEAR." FROM HIS REMARKS,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COPENH 02634 191324Z

I DREW THE INFERENCE THAT NONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE

CONSORTIUM WOULD DECIDE UPON A REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT BEFORE 1975. CERTAINLY HE WAS CLEAR IN HIS STATEMENT THAT THE DANES THEMSELVES COULD MAKE NO DECISION BEFORE THE YEAR'S END.

2. BRONDUM THEN SET OUT FOR ME THE STEPS THE DANES MUST GO THROUGH BEFORE A PROCUREMENT DECISION IS MADE. FIRST, THE MILITARY-TECHNICAL PEOPLE MUST DECIDE WHAT SPECIFIC KIND OF AIRCRAFT IS NEEDED; SECOND, THEY MUST DECIDE WHICH OF THE POSSIBLE CONTENDERS BEST FITS THIS NEED; THIRD, A STRICT MILITARY-ECONOMIC JUDGMENT MUST BE MADE ON WHICH OF THE COMPETITORS IS CHEAPEST TO MAINTAIN, HOW MUCH GROUND TIME AND FLYING TIME CAN BE EXPECTED FROM IT, ETC. HE NOTED THAT THIS LATTER POINT WAS ONE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE AND AN AREA WHERE ACCURATE INFORMATION AND JUDGMENTS WERE DIFFICULT. SUCH DIFFICULTIES ARE COMPOUNDED IN THE CASE OF AIRCRAFT LIKE THE YF-16 AND YF-17 WHICH HAVE NOT YET ESTABLISHED ANY EXPERIENCE IN THESE FIELDS.

3. BRONDUM SAW HIS ROLE, OR THAT OF ANY DANISH DEFMIN, AS LIMITED TO THESE SUBJECTS. IN ADDITION TO TECHNICAL DEFENSE MATTERS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO HAVE TO REACH CONCLUSIONS IN WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS THE CIVIL-ECONOMIC AREA, EG., THE BENEFIT FOR DANISH INDUSTRY, CO-PRODUCTION, AND GENERAL OFFSET MATTERS. FINALLY, THERE WILL BE THE POLITICAL ELEMENT WHICH WILL BE DECIDED BY THE PRIMIN WITH THE ADVICE OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

4. BRONDUM SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THAT A NEW DEFENSE AGREEMENT, SIMILAR TO THE PRESENT FOUR-YEAR ONE, WILL EMERGE AFTER 1977 WITH APPROXIMATELY THE SAME LEVEL OF EXPENDITURES IN CONSTANT KRNER. HE INDICATED THAT ONE OF THE REASONS, PERHAPS THE PRINCIPAL ONE, WHY HE INTENDED TO GO SLOW ON THE AIR CRAFT PROCUREMENT ISSUE WAS THE OBVIOUS UNPOPULARITY OF SPEAKING NOW OF THE NEED TO SPEND, EVEN IN THE FUTURE, BILLIONS OF KRONER FOR MILITARY AIRCRAFT AT THE VERY TIME THAT THE ECONOMY AND TAXPAYERS ARE HARD PRESSED.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 COPENH 02634 191324Z

5. I VOICED MY FIRM CONVICTION THAT EITHER OF THE US CONTENDERS WAS THE BEST PLANE FOR THE NATO JOBS, BOTH TECHNOLOGICALLY AND PRICE-WISE. THE US IS ALSO IN THE BEST POSITION TO ASSURE THE PROVISION OF ADEQUATE MAINTENANCE AND SPARE PARTS. FINALLY, OUR COMMITMENT TO BUY EITHER THE YF-16 OR YF-17 IN LARGE NUMBERS WOULD LEAD TO A HIGHER DEGREE OF STANDARDIZATION THAN HAS YET

BEEN REALIZED AMONG THE NATO ALLIES.
CROWE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PROCUREMENT, MINISTERIAL VISITS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974COPENH02634
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740263-0413
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740933/aaaabbha.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <03 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEFENSE MINISTER BRONDUM COMMENTS ON US VISIT (F-104 REPLACEMENT)
TAGS: MASS, DA, US, NATO, (BRONDUM, ERLIGN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005